

[POLEMIC: TWO STRATEGIES FOR THE MOVEMENT IN THE SQUARE]

By Santiago Lupe

Two main strategies can be distinguished. On the one hand, the same groups that are opposed to the freedom of tendencies are trying to transform the camps into an end in themselves. The anarchists and autonomists' main goal is to build the camps 'here and now' as an 'autonomous space', where those participating can resolve by their own means some of their everyday problems – even if only in a partial way. They are trying to build 'a city within a city', a parallel world to the existing one. This leads to a disregard for the political struggle against the government, the main political parties and the bosses, and, in turn, rejects the desire of the majority to formulate concrete demands. Moreover, by doing this, they impose an obstacle to the development of the movement by preventing it from linking up with workers in struggle – who don't share this utopian and individualistic strategy. This tactic is in conflict with their stated aim of creating a 'parallel society', since isolation only assists the government in its attempts to evict the protesters from the squares.

On the other hand, there are political groups that believe that the movement has to attack the government and the main political parties, as part of the struggle to stop all the adjustment measures and put an end to reactionary institutions such as the monarchy. Their hope is to transform the world in a radical way, not to build a precarious 'alternative world'. They want to take the struggle out of the squares – a desire that many participants have already expressed – that is, to transform the camps in centres of organisation and coordination in order to link up with other sectors in struggle. Without this the camps risk becoming symbolic and isolated protests – with little impact. For the comrades in Clase contra Clase the strategic task is to link up with organised workers, who, participating with their own methods of struggle, can move the current protest from the stage of occupying the streets to the stage of paralysing the country.

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[TWO EXPERIENCES OF THE GROUP CLASE CONTRA CLASE]

TUZSA on Wednesday the 18th would end in an assembly, which duplicated the attendance with the presence of many workers.

The comrades from CcC participated in the students' committee and the workers' committee, both of which participated in the striking bus workers' picket to show their solidarity. In the students' committee high school and university students have a strong presence, and they want to hold assemblies in institutes and faculties. In the workers' committee there are young precarious workers, like those in Telepizza and the contracted workers at City Hall, teachers and industrial workers from various unions and those who aren't unionized. This week they're going on 'expeditions' to GM (the main business in Aragon, with 8,000 workers) and the major unions' head offices to demand a general strike and to speak with the workers, encouraging them to join the strike and surpass their betraying leaders.

Terrassa: workers and students together in a rally

Terrassa city is one of the many cities in Catalonia that have joined the protestors who are camping in the city plazas to demonstrate against the economic, social and political

system. Through the use of social media a rally was called on the 18th to show solidarity with the other camping protestors. The rally was very successful with over 500 people attending. Those who attended included workers who are in struggles, such as the health workers and students who have been fighting against the budget cuts for a long time as well as immigrants and the unemployed. Everyone participated in a general assembly, where a consensus was reached to continue camping in the plaza for another day

In the following days the protestors have been organizing in committees and subcommittees (communication, activities, infrastructure, organization, coordination...). There are also debates organized around different issues, such as the environment, foreclosures, health, education, and immigration.

The encampment is taking place in a symbolic place: (Raval de Montserrat), which is a plaza in front of the city hall and is now called the People's Plaza. Over 2,000 people participated this weekend. But possible the most important event was the high school students' manifestation on the 25th, when over 1,000 students came out to the plaza and headed towards the Mutua hospital to show their support for the health workers' rally.